

Message Text

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67

ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05

BIB-01 DODE-00 MC-01 OES-03 /090 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR:TMCNAMARA:MK

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ACDA:DLINEBAUGH

DOD/ISA:LMICHAEL

PM/DCA:CFLOWEREE

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P R 092255Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T STATE 269795

E.O. 11652:GDS

SUBJECT: MBFR: CONSULTATIONS WITH FRG DISARMAMENT

COMMISSIONER ROTH

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

1. IN DECEMBER 6 CONVERSATION WITH ACDA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
KLEIN AND STATE AND DEFENSE OFFICIALS, FRG DISARMAMENT
COMMISSIONER ROTH MADE FOLLOWING POINTS ON NUCLEAR ISSUES
AND EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION:

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2. OPTION III: AMBASSADOR ROTH THOUGHT THAT THE ALLIED POSITION WAS NOT REALISTIC WITHOUT THE INCLUSION OF THE NUCLEAR ELEMENT. HE PERSONALLY NEVER EXPECTED THAT THE EAST WOULD CONSIDER WESTERN PROPOSAL UNTIL THE NUCLEAR OPTION

WAS INTRODUCED. THE QUESTION THEREFORE, IN HIS OPINION, HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF TIMING, I.E., WHEN WOULD THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NUCLEAR ELEMENT BENEFIT THE ALLIES MOST. MANY ALLIES, HE FELT, WERE WAITING FOR THE RUSSIANS TO ASK FOR IT. FOR HIS PART, ROTH THOUGHT THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN RELUCTANT TO APPEAR AS QUOTE DEMANDEURS UNQUOTE. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE UNCHARACTERISTIC FOR THEM TO BE MORE EXPLICIT THAN THEY ALREADY HAVE BEEN.

3. AN IMPORTANT NEW ELEMENT WHICH ARGUES FOR AN INTRODUCTION OF OPTION III NOW IS THAT THE SOVIETS SEEM TO REALIZE THAT THEY CANNOT QUICKLY ACHIEVE LIMITATIONS ON THE BUNDESWEHR. THEREFORE IN VIEW OF THEIR INTEREST IN NUCLEAR FORCES ALSO, THEY MAY BE WILLING TO TURN THEIR ATTENTION SERIOUSLY TO A NUCLEAR OPTION SHOULD THE ALLIES INTRODUCE IT. AMBASSADOR ROTH FELT THE TIME WAS RIPE FOR THE U.S. TO MAKE A DECISION ON INTRODUCING OPTION III AND TO ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ALLIES. WITHOUT INSISTING ON THE TRILATERAL FORMAT THE FRG EXPECTED PRIOR CONSULTATIONS. HE THOUGHT THE ALLIES SHOULD TRY TO GET QUOTE THE OPTIMUM UNQUOTE IN ADVANTAGES FROM OPTION III AND SHOULD THEREFORE NOT INTRODUCE IT QUOTE PIECEMEAL UNQUOTE. ROTH ALSO SAID THE FRG COULD LIVE WITH CONTINUATION OF SLOW PACE OF MBFR OVER NEXT FEW MONTHS. IN THAT CASE THE DISCUSSIONS SHOULD FOCUS ON DATA POSSIBLY THROUGH A WESTERN COUNTERPROPOSAL TO EASTERN FREEZE INITIATIVE.

4. EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION: QUESTIONED ON FRG ATTITUDES TOWARD EUROPEAN REDUCTIONS, AMBASSADOR ROTH REPLIED THE FRG WAS CONSIDERING VARIOUS OPTIONS FOR INCLUDING THE EUROPEANS, PERHAPS VIA AN EARLY, SMALL QUOTE CONFIDENCE-BUILDING TYPE UNQUOTE OF REDUCTION. HE SAID ANY SUCH NEW PROPOSAL SHOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED AFTER THE INTRODUCTION

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OF OPTION III, I.E., FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRESENT ALLIED POSITION. HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO PROCEED DELIBERATELY AND NOT FORECLOSE PHASE II OPTIONS.

5. FULL MEMCON BEING POUCHED ADDRESSEES. KISSINGER

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